PROPOSAL TO EXPAND JURISDICTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SUBCOMMITTEE TO INCLUDE INDUSTRY ISSUES AND TO RESTRUCTURE LEADERSHIP OF SUBCOMMITTEE

At its meeting on June 23, 2011, the Governing Board established the Intellectual Property Subcommittee and appointed Steve Juelsgaard as its Chair. The subcommittee's jurisdiction currently includes: (1) establishing intellectual property standards that balance the opportunity of the State of California to benefit from the patents, royalties and licenses that result from basic research, therapy development, and clinical trials with the need to assure that essential medical research is not unreasonably hindered by the standards; (2) considering the intellectual property implications of CIRM's collaborations with other countries, states, foundations and other strategic partners; (3) evaluating state and federal legislation relating to intellectual property matters and advising the Legislative Subcommittee; (4) evaluating the implications of the European Court of Justice's consideration of the patentability of stem cells; and (5) developing a program to assist CIRM grantees in protecting intellectual property generated from CIRM-funded research and to ensure that the State has an opportunity to share in the revenues arising out of CIRM-funded research.

In light of CIRM's desire to engage industry in its mission to deliver therapies and cures to patients who suffer from chronic disease and injury and the overlap between industry-related issues and the current jurisdiction of the subcommittee, Chairman Thomas, with the concurrence of Subcommittee Chair Juelsgaard, proposes to expand the jurisdiction of the subcommittee to include industry-related issues, such as:
(1) participation by representatives of industry as members of the Grants Working Group;
(2) the development and refinement of programs to incorporate industry into CIRM's research programs; (3) financing issues relating to industry involvement with CIRM; (4) evaluation of barriers to industry engagement in CIRM-related or funded activities; (5) addressing means of encouraging industry interaction and involvement, especially in the areas of development, regulatory compliance, manufacturing and commercialization, with CIRM-funded research organizations that have identified potential promising therapies and (6) consideration and refinement of CIRM's loan program.

In addition, at Subcommittee Chair Juelsgaard's request, Chairman Thomas proposes to restructure the leadership of the Subcommittee to appoint Duane Roth as co-Chair, with primary responsibility for leading the Subcommittee's consideration of issues relating to industry engagement. Chair Juelsgaard would continue to exercise leadership with respect to the issues within the current jurisdiction of the Subcommittee, and the co-Chairs would support one another in carrying out the Subcommittee's mandate.